5/20/88 57675-3

TEXAS
Labor Market Review

TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION APRIL 1988 AUSTIN, TEXAS 78778

UNEMPLOYMENT DECLINES SLIGHTLY IN TEXAS

The Statewide unemployment rate in the actual series decreased slightly between February and March, dropping from 8.7 percent to 8.3 percent in mid-March. The current rate was virtually the same as the year-ago rate of 8.2 percent. The total number of jobless in Texas declined by only 43,600 over the month, and was slightly higher than the year-ago level. Total employment remained stable between February and March, at 7,493,000 in mid-March, but the current estimate was over 100,000 above the year-ago figure.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES
(In Thousands)

	Mar. 1988	Feb. 1988	Mar. 1987
United States (Actual)			
Labor Force	119,957.0	119,942.0	118,353.0
Unemployment	7,090.0	7,482.0	8,124.0
Percent Unemployed	5.9	6.2	6.9
Total Employment	112,867.0	112,460.0	110,229.0
United States (Seasonally Adjusted)			
Labor Force	120,904.0	121,347.0	119,246.0
Unemployment	6,801.0	6,938.0	7,791.0
Percent Unemployed	5.6	5.7	6.5
Total Employment	114,103.0	114,409.0	111,455.0
State of Texas (Actual)			
Labor Force	8,167.1	8,210.2	8,008.2
Unemployment	674.1	717.7	660.3
Percent Unemployed	8.3	8.7	8.2
Total Employment	7,493.0	7,492.5	7,347.9
State of Texas (Seasonally Adjusted)			
Labor Force	8,252.0	8,306.0	8,085.0
Unemployment	670.0	696.0	653.0
Percent Unemployed	8.1	8.4	8.1
Total Employment	7,582.0	7,610.0	7,432.0

On a quarterly basis, the first three months of 1988 averaged 8.5 percent -- down from an average of 9.1 percent for the same quarter in 1987. Continuing high rates, along with the lingering slumps in mining and construction, reflect a very moderate and slow-moving recovery in the State's economic status. Even in the seasonally adjusted series (which attempts to eliminate seasonal factors), the unemployment rate, on average, for the first quarter of 1988 was 8.2 percent, down only moderately from the 8.8 percent rate averaged in the first quarter of 1987. National rates continued to be much better than those for Texas, as the actual rate declined from 6.2 percent to 5.9 percent over the month and the seasonally adjusted rate inched downward from 5.7 percent in February to 5.6 percent in March -- its lowest level since 1979.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT RISES MODERATELY

The Statewide count of nonfarm salaried jobs rose by 8,700 between February and March, totaling 6,531,700 in mid-March. Substantial gains in services, government, and manufacturing were partially offset by one sizeable downturn in trade and smaller declines in transportation and public utilities, construction and mining over the month. Between March 1987 and March 1988, the total had risen by 63,500. The over-the-month change of 8,700 was the least advance for this time of year since the 'Eighties began, and was one-third the size of the 26,200 increase recorded last year between February and March.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT 1/
TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Industry	Mar.'88*	Feb.'88**	Mar.'87**	Mar.'88*	Feb.'88**	Mar.'87**	Mar.'88*	Feb.'88**	Mar.'87**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN		
TOTAL	49,100	48,900	49,000	77,700	77,600	77,200	351,500	351,100	356,600
Manufacturing	4,600	4,600	4,500	9,900	9,900	9,800	39,300	39,200	39,600
Mining	2,100	2,100	2,200	1,200	1,300	1,400	800	800	800
Construction	2,000	2,000	2,200	3,600	3,500	3,600	15,300	15,600	17,400
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,400	2,400	2,500	5,800	5,800	5,600	10,900	10,800	11,000
Trade	13,500	13,400	13,600	22,200	22,200	22,100	77,400	77,700	78,600
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,600	2,600	2,600	4,500	4,600	4,600	24,800	24,700	25,400
Services & Misc.	13,100	13,100	13,100	16,200	16,000	16,000	83,800	83,300	84,400
Government	8,800	8,700	8,300	14,300	14,300	14,100	99,200	99,000	99,400
	BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR			BRAZORIA			BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN		
TOTAL	126,500	126,000	128,200	57,900	57,400	56,700	67,000	66,300	65,200
Manufacturing	23,900	23,800	24,600	15,700	15,500	15,400	10,200	10,000	9,700
Mining	1,400	1,400	1,400	1,900	1,900	1,800	--	--	--
Construction	7,500	7,400	8,200	6,000	5,700	5,700	2,300	2,200	2,300
Trans., Comm., & Util.	9,600	9,600	9,700	2,300	2,300	2,300	3,200	3,100	2,900
Trade	30,800	30,800	31,200	11,000	10,900	10,900	17,600	17,100	17,500
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	5,200	5,200	5,200	2,000	2,000	2,100	3,600	3,500	3,500
Services & Misc.	27,700	27,400	27,700	7,900	7,900	7,500	13,700	13,800	13,100
Government	20,400	20,400	20,200	11,100	11,200	11,000	16,400	16,600	16,200
	BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION			CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS 2/		
TOTAL	47,900	47,800	47,600	124,600	124,500	124,100	1,324.0	1,323.1	1,324.4
Manufacturing	3,200	3,200	3,000	11,200	11,400	11,900	221.3	221.5	220.3
Mining	600	600	600	3,800	3,800	4,600	18.2	18.1	19.4
Construction	2,000	1,900	1,900	6,100	6,000	6,800	53.0	53.7	65.2
Trans., Comm., & Util.	1,600	1,600	1,600	6,800	6,800	7,000	90.8	90.0	87.7
Trade	9,100	9,500	10,100	32,400	32,100	31,500	344.8	345.0	345.4
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,700	1,700	1,800	6,900	7,000	6,800	129.0	128.2	132.9
Services & Misc.	8,500	8,300	8,000	29,200	29,300	28,100	315.8	316.2	303.3
Government	21,100	21,000	20,600	28,200	28,200	27,400	151.1	150.4	150.2
	EL PASO			FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON			GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY		
TOTAL	187,100	186,700	183,800	513,600	512,700	511,000	70,200	70,100	70,900
Manufacturing	37,400	37,400	35,500	117,500	117,200	112,200	8,700	8,800	8,600
Mining	--	--	--	3,500	3,500	3,600	600	600	500
Construction	9,200	9,300	9,700	20,400	20,200	26,000	3,700	3,400	4,500
Trans., Comm., & Util.	10,300	10,300	10,000	30,700	30,700	28,700	4,600	4,800	5,700
Trade	46,400	46,300	45,600	134,100	134,000	134,700	14,000	13,900	13,700
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	9,400	9,400	9,400	27,100	27,100	27,800	4,100	4,100	4,200
Services & Misc.	35,000	34,700	34,200	112,000	111,800	111,700	13,900	13,800	12,800
Government	39,400	39,300	39,400	68,300	68,200	66,300	20,600	20,700	20,900

Services generated 7,400 additional jobs between February and March 1988, as every sector except education advanced. The largest increases were in health services, as nursing and personal care facilities expanded and staff was augmented in clinics and hospitals, due to continued flu and chicken-pox outbreaks. Preparation for spring outdoor activities sponsored by civic and social clubs contributed new jobs, and a general upturn within business and repair services also pushed employment up.

The completion of auxiliary staffing for local schools and hiring by state and local agencies were the primary forces behind the increase of 3,800 jobs in government over the month. The largest number of positions were added in the local sector, which gained 3,000 jobs in March. The only other nonmanufacturing group which recorded an increase was finance, insurance and real estate, which rose by 200 as an advance of 500 in banking was partially nullified by a slightly smaller decline among insurance carriers, agents and brokers.

An estimated 4,100 jobs were cut within the retail sector of trade, but wholesale trade compensated for part of the loss with an additional 1,300 jobs, limiting the overall loss in this sector to 2,800. The largest losses within retail trade were in general merchandise stores, where one large employer reported substantial cutbacks and smaller losses were numerous among other firms. Minor declines occurred in food stores, apparel and accessory stores, and in eating and drinking places.

NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY EMPLOYMENT 1/
TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

Industry	Mar.'88*	Feb.'88**	Mar.'87**
	HOUSTON 2/		
TOTAL	1,395.9	1,385.9	1,369.0
Manufacturing	149.5	149.2	142.9
Mining	63.7	62.8	62.2
Construction	80.5	80.1	85.9
Trans., Comm., & Util.	98.6	97.4	97.3
Trade	350.0	349.1	345.2
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	96.9	96.3	101.8
Services & Misc.	367.6	362.4	346.6
Government	189.1	188.6	187.1
	LONGVIEW-MARSHALL		
TOTAL	65,200	64,700	63,500
Manufacturing	15,800	15,600	14,800
Mining	3,500	3,500	3,600
Construction	3,300	3,100	2,900
Trans., Comm., & Util.	3,100	3,100	3,100
Trade	16,600	16,600	16,200
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,700	2,700	3,300
Services & Misc.	11,700	11,600	11,200
Government	8,500	8,500	8,400
	MIDLAND		
TOTAL	44,200	44,200	43,200
Manufacturing	2,800	2,900	2,800
Mining	9,900	9,900	9,500
Construction	1,000	1,000	1,200
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,200	2,100	2,100
Trade	10,100	10,000	9,900
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,500	2,500	2,700
Services & Misc.	8,700	8,700	8,600
Government	7,000	7,100	6,400
	SAN ANTONIO		
TOTAL	507,500	505,500	499,300
Manufacturing	46,600	46,200	46,000
Mining	2,700	2,600	2,600
Construction	28,000	28,300	29,600
Trans., Comm., & Util.	18,000	17,900	18,400
Trade	130,900	131,200	127,900
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	40,000	39,900	39,600
Services & Misc.	124,000	122,300	119,500
Government	117,300	117,100	115,700
	TYLER		
TOTAL	61,000	61,000	60,200
Manufacturing	10,600	10,600	10,700
Mining	1,900	1,900	1,900
Construction	2,200	2,200	2,400
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,600	2,700	2,600
Trade	16,300	16,300	16,300
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,600	3,700	3,600
Services & Misc.	14,600	14,400	13,600
Government	9,200	9,200	9,100
	WICHITA FALLS		
TOTAL	50,200	50,000	49,400
Manufacturing	8,100	8,100	8,400
Mining	1,900	1,900	1,800
Construction	1,700	1,700	1,600
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,600	2,600	2,600
Trade	12,200	12,200	11,800
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	2,300	2,300	2,300
Services & Misc.	11,700	11,500	11,300
Government	9,700	9,700	9,600

Industry	Mar.'88*	Feb.'88**	Mar.'87**
	KILLEEN-TEMPLE		
TOTAL	70,400	69,900	68,800
Manufacturing	8,000	8,000	8,200
Mining	100	100	100
Construction	3,500	3,400	3,700
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,700	2,700	2,700
Trade	16,000	15,900	15,700
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,000	3,000	3,000
Services & Misc.	15,500	15,200	14,800
Government	21,600	21,600	20,600
	LUBBOCK		
TOTAL	92,000	91,500	90,800
Manufacturing	7,400	7,300	7,300
Mining	400	400	400
Construction	3,300	3,100	3,400
Trans., Comm., & Util.	5,000	5,000	4,900
Trade	27,100	27,000	26,400
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	5,300	5,300	5,300
Services & Misc.	22,000	21,700	21,200
Government	21,500	21,700	21,900
	ODESSA		
TOTAL	43,500	43,600	41,100
Manufacturing	3,800	3,800	3,500
Mining	6,200	6,300	5,600
Construction	2,000	2,000	2,000
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,200	2,200	2,000
Trade	12,500	12,500	12,000
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,700	1,700	1,600
Services & Misc.	7,300	7,300	6,700
Government	7,800	7,800	7,700
	SHERMAN-DENISON		
TOTAL	38,200	37,900	37,300
Manufacturing	11,200	11,200	11,000
Mining	100	100	100
Construction	1,700	1,600	1,700
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,000	2,000	2,100
Trade	8,200	8,200	8,100
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,800	1,800	1,700
Services & Misc.	8,800	8,700	7,500
Government	4,400	4,300	5,100
	VICTORIA		
TOTAL	27,800	27,700	26,600
Manufacturing	3,100	3,100	2,700
Mining	1,500	1,500	1,500
Construction	1,800	1,700	1,700
Trans., Comm., & Util.	1,500	1,500	1,500
Trade	7,900	7,900	7,700
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,500	1,500	1,500
Services & Misc.	5,900	5,900	5,500
Government	4,600	4,600	4,500

Industry	Mar.'88*	Feb.'88**	Mar.'87**
	LAREDO		
TOTAL	35,600	36,200	35,100
Manufacturing	1,500	1,700	1,800
Mining	2,000	2,000	1,700
Construction	1,300	1,300	1,300
Trans., Comm., & Util.	4,700	4,800	4,300
Trade	10,100	10,300	10,300
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,700	1,700	1,600
Services & Misc.	5,900	6,000	5,800
Government	8,400	8,400	8,300
	MCALLEN-EDINBURG-MISSION		
TOTAL	90,800	90,000	88,900
Manufacturing	12,000	11,400	12,100
Mining	900	900	800
Construction	4,000	3,800	4,000
Trans., Comm., & Util.	2,900	2,700	3,100
Trade	27,100	27,200	26,900
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	3,700	3,800	3,800
Services & Misc.	14,700	14,600	14,000
Government	25,500	25,600	24,200
	SAN ANGELO		
TOTAL	36,500	36,500	36,200
Manufacturing	5,700	5,500	5,600
Mining	400	400	400
Construction	1,500	1,500	1,700
Trans., Comm., & Util.	3,100	3,100	3,200
Trade	9,500	9,600	9,500
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,800	1,800	1,800
Services & Misc.	7,700	7,800	7,400
Government	6,800	6,800	6,600
	TEXARKANA		
TOTAL	45,600	45,400	44,900
Manufacturing	7,300	7,400	7,200
Mining	100	100	100
Construction	2,100	2,100	1,800
Trans., Comm., & Util.	1,700	1,700	1,900
Trade	10,600	10,600	10,700
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	1,900	1,900	1,800
Services & Misc.	9,500	9,300	8,900
Government	12,400	12,300	12,500
	WACO		
TOTAL	78,500	78,300	77,100
Manufacturing	14,600	15,100	14,500
Mining	100	100	100
Construction	3,500	3,400	3,400
Trans., Comm., & Util.	3,300	3,300	3,200
Trade	19,200	19,100	18,900
Fin., Ins., & Rl. Est.	4,700	4,700	4,800
Services & Misc.	20,600	20,100	19,800
Government	12,500	12,500	12,400

* Preliminary -- subject to revision. ** Revised.
1/ Estimates prepared by TEC in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.
2/ In Thousands.

TEXAS NONAGRICULTURAL WAGE AND SALARY ESTIMATES 1/

Industry	Mar. 1988*	Feb. 1988**	Mar. 1987**	Change From Feb. 1988	Change From Mar. 1987
TOTAL NONAGRICULTURAL EMPLOYMENT±	6,531,700	6,523,000	6,468,200	8,700	63,500
Manufacturing	939,900	938,800	917,700	1,100	22,200
Durable Goods	539,100	540,200	522,500	-1,100	16,600
Lumber & Wood Products	32,900	33,300	34,200	-400	-1,300
Logging Camps, Sawmills, Planing Mills	6,500	6,600	6,700	-100	-200
Furniture & Fixtures	16,700	16,800	15,700	-100	1,000
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	42,600	42,600	43,000	0	-400
Concrete, Gypsum & Plaster Products	18,300	18,500	19,500	-200	-1,200
Primary Metal Industries	28,100	28,100	26,300	0	1,800
Fabricated Metal Industries	73,800	73,600	70,800	200	3,000
Fabricated Structural Metal Products	35,100	35,300	35,100	-200	0
Machinery, Except Electrical	101,100	101,700	96,800	-600	4,300
Oil Field Machinery	22,100	22,300	20,700	-200	1,400
Electric & Electronic Equipment	116,700	116,900	114,300	-200	2,400
Transportation Equipment	92,200	92,400	87,200	-200	5,000
Aircraft & Parts	53,200	53,100	50,400	100	2,800
Instruments & Related Products	21,700	21,700	21,300	0	400
Miscellaneous Manufacturing Industries	13,300	13,100	12,900	200	400
Nondurable Goods	400,800	398,600	395,200	2,200	5,600
Food & Kindred Products	96,700	95,800	95,900	900	800
Meat Products	28,700	28,700	27,900	0	800
Dairy Products	4,700	4,600	4,700	100	0
Bakery Products	10,100	10,100	10,100	0	0
Malt Beverages	3,000	3,000	3,100	0	-100
Textile Mill Products	3,900	4,000	3,900	-100	0
Apparel & Other Finished Textile Products	54,500	54,600	51,500	-100	3,000
Paper & Allied Products	25,400	25,200	23,500	200	1,900
Printing & Publishing	73,200	73,000	74,300	200	-1,100
Newspaper, Periodicals, Books & Misc. Publ.	36,100	36,300	37,400	-200	-1,300
Chemicals & Allied Products	74,100	73,000	73,700	1,100	400
Petroleum & Coal Products	30,900	31,200	33,100	-300	-2,200
Petroleum Refining	27,600	27,900	29,800	-300	-2,200
Leather & Leather Products	8,000	7,900	7,000	100	1,000
Other Nondurable Goods	34,100	33,900	32,300	200	1,800
Total Nonmanufacturing	5,591,800	5,584,200	5,550,500	7,600	41,300
Mining	182,000	182,100	179,300	-100	2,700
Metal & Coal & Nonmet. Mnrls., Exc. Fuel	9,800	9,800	10,100	0	-300
Oil & Gas Extraction	172,200	172,300	169,200	-100	3,000
Construction	317,900	318,100	348,300	-200	-30,400
Transportation & Public Utilities	384,000	384,700	378,000	-700	6,000
Railroad Transportation	20,600	20,600	21,300	0	-700
Transportation, Except Railroads	203,300	204,100	195,000	-800	8,300
Transportation by Air	60,000	59,300	53,100	700	6,900
Communication, Exc. U. S. Postal Service	84,400	84,300	85,300	100	-900
Electric, Gas & Sanitary Services	75,700	75,700	76,400	0	-700
Electric Services	41,100	41,300	42,500	-200	-1,400
Gas Production & Distribution	27,200	27,100	26,800	100	400
Wholesale & Retail Trade	1,628,100	1,630,900	1,628,700	-2,800	-600
Wholesale Trade	409,400	408,100	408,000	1,300	1,400
Retail Trade	1,218,700	1,222,800	1,220,700	-4,100	-2,000
Building Materials & Garden Supplies	44,700	44,200	45,800	500	-1,100
General Merchandise Stores	161,600	164,600	155,600	-3,000	6,000
Food Stores	225,900	226,600	225,200	-700	700
Automotive Dealers & Service Stations	132,100	131,900	133,500	200	-1,400
Apparel & Accessory Stores	77,200	77,900	83,700	-700	-6,500
Eating & Drinking Places	394,600	394,200	393,900	400	700
Other Retail Trade	182,600	183,400	183,000	-800	-400
Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	437,600	437,400	443,900	200	-6,300
Banking	98,100	97,600	99,500	500	-1,400
Insurance Carriers, Agents & Brokers	137,200	137,600	138,100	-400	-900
Other Finance, Insurance & Real Estate	202,300	202,200	206,300	100	-4,000
Services	1,464,500	1,457,100	1,415,200	7,400	49,300
Hotels & Other Lodging Places	81,500	80,800	83,700	700	-2,200
Personal Services	83,900	83,800	83,100	100	800
Business & Repair Services	404,500	403,200	389,000	1,300	15,500
Amusement, Including Motion Pictures	53,200	52,800	51,100	400	2,100
Health Services	397,100	394,300	379,300	2,800	17,800
Educational Services	79,900	79,900	75,400	0	4,500
Other Services & Miscellaneous	364,400	362,300	353,600	2,100	10,800
Total Government	1,177,700	1,173,900	1,157,100	3,800	20,600
Total Federal Government	191,700	192,000	193,400	-300	-1,700
Total State Government	243,600	242,500	235,300	1,100	8,300
Total Local Government	742,400	739,400	728,400	3,000	14,000

1/ Estimated number of nonagricultural jobs in Texas without reference to place of residence of workers. ±Estimates of TEC in cooperation with Bureau of Labor Statistics, U. S. Department of Labor.
*Preliminary -- subject to revision. **Revised.

CIVILIAN LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES 1/
TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

	Mar. '88*	Feb. '88**	Mar. '87**	Mar. '88*	Feb. '88**	Mar. '87**	Mar. '88*	Feb. '88**	Mar. '87**
	ABILENE			AMARILLO			AUSTIN		
Total Civilian Labor Force	53,900	54,100	53,700	98,600	99,800	96,900	423,900	426,500	421,500
Total Unemployment	4,100	4,300	4,600	6,400	7,000	5,900	29,100	30,400	25,500
Percent Unemployed	7.6	7.9	8.6	6.5	7.0	6.1	6.9	7.1	6.0
Total Employment 2/	49,800	49,800	49,100	92,200	92,800	91,000	394,800	396,100	396,100
	BEAUMONT-PORT ARTHUR			BRAZORIA			BROWNSVILLE-HARLINGEN		
Total Civilian Labor Force	157,700	159,700	157,800	80,700	81,100	78,100	97,100	98,000	91,900
Total Unemployment	18,400	20,400	18,900	7,500	7,900	7,300	14,600	16,100	12,700
Percent Unemployed	11.7	12.8	12.0	9.3	9.7	9.3	15.0	16.4	13.8
Total Employment 2/	139,300	139,300	138,900	73,200	73,200	70,800	82,500	81,900	79,200
	BRYAN-COLLEGE STATION			CORPUS CHRISTI			DALLAS 3/		
Total Civilian Labor Force	56,300	56,800	55,900	160,100	160,900	158,500	1,430.4	1,441.4	1,405.6
Total Unemployment	2,800	3,100	3,200	17,200	18,700	18,400	91.0	96.5	80.5
Percent Unemployed	5.0	5.5	5.7	10.7	11.6	11.6	6.4	6.7	5.7
Total Employment 2/	53,500	53,700	52,700	142,900	142,200	140,100	1,339.4	1,344.9	1,325.1
	EL PASO			FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON			GALVESTON-TEXAS CITY		
Total Civilian Labor Force	233,500	236,100	222,900	669,300	672,800	653,000	106,300	106,600	105,900
Total Unemployment	26,900	29,300	22,400	46,900	49,500	41,100	10,900	11,300	10,500
Percent Unemployed	11.5	12.4	10.0	7.0	7.4	6.3	10.3	10.6	9.9
Total Employment 2/	206,600	206,800	200,500	622,400	623,300	611,900	95,400	95,300	95,400
	HOUSTON 3/			KILLEEN-TEMPLE			LAREDO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	1,581.6	1,584.4	1,558.2	93,100	93,700	89,400	46,600	47,200	44,600
Total Unemployment	123.9	131.8	140.5	7,700	8,100	6,500	7,900	8,500	7,300
Percent Unemployed	7.8	8.3	9.0	8.3	8.6	7.3	17.0	18.0	16.4
Total Employment 2/	1,457.7	1,452.6	1,417.7	85,400	85,600	82,900	38,700	38,700	37,300
	LONGVIEW-MARSHALL			LUBBOCK			MCALLEN-EDINBURG-MISSION		
Total Civilian Labor Force	78,500	79,200	76,300	111,900	112,300	109,400	151,100	152,400	143,300
Total Unemployment	7,800	8,600	7,900	6,700	7,100	6,400	29,800	31,400	25,800
Percent Unemployed	9.9	10.9	10.4	6.0	6.3	5.9	19.7	20.6	18.0
Total Employment 2/	70,700	70,600	68,400	105,200	105,200	103,000	121,300	121,000	117,500
	MIDLAND			ODESSA			SAN ANGELO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	49,000	49,500	49,100	53,400	54,000	53,700	45,000	45,100	44,300
Total Unemployment	3,500	3,800	4,700	4,500	4,900	7,000	2,800	2,900	2,800
Percent Unemployed	7.1	7.7	9.6	8.4	9.1	13.0	6.2	6.4	6.3
Total Employment 2/	45,500	45,700	44,400	48,900	49,100	46,700	42,200	42,200	41,500
	SAN ANTONIO			SHERMAN-DENISON			TEXARKANA		
Total Civilian Labor Force	612,100	616,000	590,300	49,300	49,700	47,300	58,300	58,500	56,500
Total Unemployment	50,500	54,300	44,300	3,700	4,000	3,600	4,900	5,200	4,900
Percent Unemployed	8.3	8.8	7.5	7.5	8.0	7.6	8.4	8.9	8.7
Total Employment 2/	561,600	561,700	546,000	45,600	45,700	43,700	53,400	53,300	51,600
	TYLER			VICTORIA			WACO		
Total Civilian Labor Force	76,000	76,600	75,300	36,500	36,800	35,800	92,700	93,700	89,500
Total Unemployment	6,200	6,700	6,300	2,800	3,100	3,300	7,400	8,100	6,700
Percent Unemployed	8.2	8.7	8.4	7.7	8.4	9.2	8.0	8.6	7.5
Total Employment 2/	69,800	69,900	69,000	33,700	33,700	32,500	85,300	85,600	82,800
	WICHITA FALLS						STATE OF TEXAS 3/		
Total Civilian Labor Force	57,000	57,600	55,500				8,167.1	8,210.2	8,006.2
Total Unemployment	4,300	4,800	4,300				674.1	717.7	660.3
Percent Unemployed	7.5	8.3	7.7				8.3	8.7	8.2
Total Employment 2/	52,700	52,800	51,200				7,493.0	7,492.5	7,347.9

1/ All estimates shown are "actual" (not seasonally adjusted).
2/ Includes resident wage and salary workers, self-employed, unpaid family workers and domestics in private households, agricultural workers, and workers involved in labor-management disputes.
3/ In Thousands.
*Preliminary -- subject to revision. **Revised.

HOURS AND EARNINGS IN TEXAS*

	Average Weekly Earnings			Average Weekly Hours			Average Hourly Earnings		
	Mar.± 1988	Feb. 1988	Mar. 1987	Mar.± 1988	Feb. 1988	Mar. 1987	Mar.± 1988	Feb. 1988	Mar. 1987
FOR TEXAS									
MANUFACTURING TOTAL	$ 413.82	$ 409.45	$ 402.78	41.8	41.4	41.1	$ 9.90	$ 9.89	$ 9.80
Durable Goods	410.90	406.43	396.48	42.1	41.6	41.3	9.76	9.77	9.60
Lumber & Wood Products	293.82	28[illegible].80	280.40	41.5	40.2	40.0	7.08	7.01	7.01
Furniture & Fixtures	248.53	243.71	243.97	39.2	38.5	38.3	6.34	6.33	6.37
Stone, Clay & Glass Prods.	389.05	382.62	390.44	42.8	42.0	43.0	9.09	9.11	9.08
Primary Metal Industries	433.86	439.43	424.76	40.7	41.3	41.0	10.66	10.64	10.36
Fabricated Metal Products	380.92	375.53	367.36	42.8	42.1	41.0	8.90	8.92	8.96
Machinery, exc. Electric	428.48	422.81	414.00	43.5	43.1	41.4	9.85	9.81	10.00
Oil Field Machinery	513.82	507.57	488.27	46.0	45.4	41.1	11.17	11.18	11.88
Electric & Electronic Equip.	429.39	433.35	431.18	40.7	40.5	41.7	10.55	10.70	10.34
Transportation Equipment	563.99	550.34	515.68	44.2	43.3	42.2	12.76	12.71	12.22
Instruments & Related Prod.	354.00	353.83	359.38	40.0	40.3	40.7	8.85	8.78	8.83
Misc. Manufacturing Inds.	261.52	264.89	249.66	37.2	37.1	37.6	7.03	7.14	6.64
Nondurable Goods	416.90	412.64	410.64	41.4	41.1	40.9	10.07	10.04	10.04
Food & Kindred Products	347.78	339.07	339.80	41.8	41.0	40.5	8.32	8.27	8.39
Meat Products	258.54	249.86	261.12	41.3	40.3	38.4	6.26	6.20	6.80
Malt Beverages	893.15	792.93	805.71	49.4	44.9	46.6	18.08	17.66	17.29
Textile Mill Products	326.87	335.61	318.46	44.9	46.1	45.3	7.28	7.28	7.03
Apparel & Other Text. Prods.	204.00	200.20	187.61	37.5	36.6	35.6	5.44	5.47	5.27
Paper & Allied Products	486.63	480.60	454.51	45.1	44.5	43.0	10.79	10.80	10.57
Printing & Publishing	389.83	386.84	381.97	39.1	38.8	39.5	9.97	9.97	9.67
Chemicals & Allied Products	651.84	657.29	645.84	42.8	43.5	43.2	15.23	15.11	14.95
Petroleum & Coal Products	691.68	669.23	662.72	44.0	43.4	43.4	15.72	15.42	15.27
Petroleum Refining	721.92	695.13	689.59	44.1	43.5	43.7	16.37	15.98	15.78
Leather & Leather Products	218.96	211.50	226.74	36.8	37.5	38.3	5.95	5.64	5.92
Other Nondurable Goods	378.88	389.34	394.67	43.7	44.7	44.9	8.67	8.71	8.79
NONMANUFACTURING									
Mining	481.98	496.13	490.32	39.8	40.8	41.1	12.11	12.16	11.93
Met/Coal/Nonmet Mnrls. exc. Fuel	564.33	543.74	539.87	46.6	44.9	46.5	12.11	12.11	11.61
Oil & Gas Extraction	475.92	492.89	486.37	39.3	40.5	40.7	12.11	12.17	11.95
Commun., exc. U. S. Postal Service	488.50	491.09	478.67	39.3	39.7	39.3	12.43	12.37	12.18
Elec., Gas & San. Services	457.86	474.95	430.88	39.1	41.3	38.3	11.71	11.50	11.25
Wholesale & Retail Trade	226.69	226.95	224.26	32.2	32.1	31.9	7.04	7.07	7.03
Wholesale Trade	384.51	391.00	376.36	38.8	39.1	38.8	9.91	10.00	9.70
Retail Trade	177.59	176.70	177.01	30.1	30.0	29.7	5.90	5.89	5.96
General Merchandise Stores	174.71	165.27	184.62	27.6	26.7	28.1	6.33	6.19	6.57
Banking	254.46	273.02	262.81	36.3	38.4	36.4	7.01	7.11	7.22

HOURS AND EARNINGS FOR SELECTED TEXAS METROPOLITAN STATISTICAL AREAS

DALLAS									
Manufacturing	$ 397.58	$ 398.52	$ 400.89	41.2	41.0	41.5	$ 9.65	$ 9.72	$ 9.66
Durable Goods	419.15	421.04	427.84	41.5	41.4	41.7	10.10	10.17	10.26
Nondurable Goods	364.34	361.98	358.03	40.8	40.4	41.2	8.93	8.96	8.69
FORT WORTH-ARLINGTON									
Manufacturing	451.67	442.13	396.50	41.4	40.6	40.5	10.91	10.89	9.79
Durable Goods	477.24	466.26	411.89	41.9	40.9	40.5	11.39	11.40	10.17
Nondurable Goods	369.87	366.16	356.33	39.9	39.8	40.4	9.27	9.20	8.82
HOUSTON									
Manufacturing	490.25	485.39	486.00	43.5	43.3	43.2	11.27	11.21	11.25
Durable Goods	413.69	411.78	414.09	43.5	43.3	43.0	9.51	9.51	9.63
Nondurable Goods	578.55	571.13	564.63	43.5	43.3	43.5	13.30	13.19	12.98
SAN ANTONIO									
Manufacturing	306.46	308.03	312.07	39.8	39.9	40.9	7.70	7.72	7.63
Durable Goods	337.20	341.90	339.04	40.0	40.8	39.7	8.43	8.38	8.54
Nondurable Goods	276.71	273.47	285.44	39.7	38.9	42.1	6.97	7.03	6.78

*Figures for Texas and selected areas cover Production Workers in Manufacturing and Mining Industries only and Nonsupervisory Employees in other industry divisions. Earnings' averages include premium pay for overtime, holidays, and for late-shift work. ±Preliminary -- subject to revision upon receipt of additional reports.
SOURCE: Texas Employment Commission in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.

Transportation and public utilities lost 700 jobs, due primarily to a sizeable decrease in business in water transportation. This loss was partially countered by a small increase in air transportation. Employment in construction and mining remained fairly stable, as construction lost 200 additional jobs and mining was down 100 in March.

Manufacturing generated 1,100 hires over the month, with all of the increase centered in the nondurable goods sector. Durable goods lost 1,100 jobs, as the majority of its sectors declined in March. The largest of the decreases was in nonelectrical machinery, where contract completions cut 600 positions. Lumber and wood products recorded a loss of 400 jobs, and smaller losses were spread throughout durable goods.

TEXAS LABOR MARKET REVIEW

Official Publication of
TEXAS EMPLOYMENT COMMISSION

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Although the nondurable goods sector rose by 2,200, half of that increase was due to the return of previously laid-off workers in chemicals and allied products. The only other notable gain was in food and kindred products, as seasonal increases occurred in preserved fruits and vegetables and in sugar processing. The largest decline in this sector was in petroleum and coal products, which lost 300 jobs in March.

MANUFACTURING HOURS AND EARNINGS RISE MODERATELY

The estimated number of manufacturing production workers increased by 1,200 over the month, totaling 607,200 in mid-March. Both average weekly hours and average hourly earnings rose slightly. In March, the average manufacturing worker averaged 41.8 hours per week at $9.90 per hour, for average weekly earnings of $413.82. Average hours worked per week were up 0.4 hour from February and had risen by 0.7 hour from March 1987. Average hourly earnings were up only 1¢ over the month, but had increased 10¢ from a year earlier. These increases pushed average weekly earnings up by $4.37 between February and March and by $11.04 over the year.

QUARTERLY UI BENEFITS PAID BY MSA
1ST QUARTER 1988
January - March 1988

Abilene	1,203,440
Amarillo	1,991,776
Austin	10,988,696
Beaumont-Port Arthur	6,269,854
Brazoria PMSA	1,610,188
Brownsville-Harlingen	3,622,014
Bryan-College Station	800,510
Corpus Christi	4,917,924
Dallas PMSA	34,971,245
El Paso	3,272,404
Fort Worth-Arlington PMSA	17,330,346
Galveston-Texas City PMSA	3,702,251
Houston PMSA	40,952,260
Killeen-Temple	1,920,330
Laredo	1,566,478
Longview-Marshall	1,636,361
Lubbock	2,178,137
McAllen-Edinburg-Mission	4,897,663
Midland	1,156,646
Odessa	2,144,772
San Angelo	1,242,809
San Antonio	15,435,899
Sherman-Denison	1,777,134
Texarkana (Bowie Co. only)	1,153,196
Tyler	2,233,129
Victoria	961,621
Waco	2,733,588
Wichita Falls	2,877,150
State of Texas	220,115,642

TEC ACTIVITIES

	Mar. 1988	Mar. 1987
Total Population	16,855,600	16,755,700*
% UI Covered Unemployment	2.0	2.8
UI Covered Employers	313,430	312,260
Total Claims Actions	677,906	870,400
Total Initial Claims Actions	66,520	81,686
Total Cont'd. Claims Actions	611,386	788,714
Avg. Weekly Benefit Amount	152.43	156.77
Total Amount Paid (Net)**	79,410,513	109,652,093
Total Placements	30,726	26,004

*Revised.
**Regular State UI benefits.

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